



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 151

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2005

No. 84

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SAM BROWNBACK, a Senator from the State of Kansas.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Wondrous sovereign God, thank You for the gift of another sunrise. We trust in Your unfailing love and rejoice in Your salvation. Your words are right and true; Your plans stand firm forever. Lord, rule our world by Your wise providence.

As the Members of this Congress investigate and legislate, help them to hate the false and cling to the truth. Give them the wisdom to guard their lips and weigh their words. Guide them with righteousness and integrity. May they leave such a legacy of excellence that generations to come will be inspired by what they do now. Remind them of Your precepts, even through the watches of the night.

You are our help and our shield, and we wait in hope for You. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SAM BROWNBACK led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 22, 2005.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable SAM BROWNBACK, a Senator from the State of Kansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWNBACK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we will return to the Energy bill with the lineup of amendments that was agreed to last night. Under that order, Senator FEINSTEIN will go first with her amendment relating to LNG. That will be considered under a 60-minute time limitation. Following that debate, Senator BYRD will offer an amendment related to rural gas prices. In addition to those amendments, we have several others who are prepared to offer amendments if time is available this morning. During this morning's debate, we will determine if we will vote after the discussion of each amendment or if we will stack a vote or two together. Senators should expect the first vote to occur prior to noon today.

Also, last night, we reached an agreement to spend 3 hours for debate on the McCain-Lieberman amendment on climate change. We expect to resume that amendment around midday, around noon today.

Finally, I remind everyone that cloture was filed last night on the underlying Energy bill, and thus that cloture vote would occur Thursday morning. We expect that cloture will be invoked, and we will be voting on final passage of the Energy bill before we close for the week. We will follow the Energy

bill with most probably Interior appropriations. We plan on doing two appropriations bills before we leave for the recess.

Also as a reminder to our colleagues, under rule XXII, first-degree amendments must be filed by 1 p.m. today. We will have a busy day today, likely go well into the evening. We will have votes over the course of the day as we bring the bill to a final vote hopefully tomorrow.

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER'S APOLOGY

Mr. FRIST. Last night, we all listened to the statement of the assistant Democratic leader in which he addressed comments made a week ago that had equated our U.S. military actions in Guantanamo to Nazi death camps, Soviet gulags, and Pol Pot's killing fields. My colleagues and I had urged the Senator to issue a formal apology and to strike his remarks from the RECORD. We asked his fellow Democrats to denounce his remarks or at least to distance themselves from those remarks.

Last night, he apologized. We appreciate that and we respect that. It was the right thing to do. It was the right thing to do for this body and I believe for our troops overseas. Why? Because over the course of the day's proceeding of the apology, damage was being done. Intended or not, damage was being done. It was being done by giving voices at Al Jazeera more cause to gleefully repeat those charges around the world. We believe damage was being done to our men and women in uniform, not intended but the damage was being done.

With our troops in harm's way all around the globe and in an era where information flashes literally in seconds from one side of the world to the other, we all must be careful about what we say and how we say it. If what we say is not intended, then we need to correct it early on. It is a lesson we all

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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